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REMARKS

In response to the Official Action of July 11, 2003, Applicant has canceled Claim 28. Accordingly, only amended Claims 1 and 27 remain as independent claims.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's willingness to conduct a telephone interview with the undersigned on August 29, 2003. During this interview, the subject matter of Claims 1 and 27 as discussed along with the embodiment of FIG. 3 of the application. In particular, the undersigned explained how the subject matter of Claims 1 and 27 was distinguishable from a combination of references, including the admitted prior art of FIG. 1, the Lee et al. patent (US Patent No. 5,506,157) and the Hamasaki patent (U.S. Patent No. 4,996,581). Notwithstanding these distinctions, Applicant has further amended Claims 1 and 27 to highlight how the trench insulating layer operates to block charge transfer from a trench-based electrode to the extrinsic base region. In contrast, FIG. 4K of Lee et al. shows a connecting region 25 that supports charge transfer across sidewalls of a trench.

Based on these amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on October 7, 2003

Candi L. Riggs
Date of Signature: October 7, 2003